

Pt. 634

7 CFR Ch. VI (1–1–16 Edition)

otherwise due or paid such person during the applicable period may be withheld or be required to be refunded with interest thereon, as determined appropriate by the NRCS.

(b) A scheme or device includes, but is not limited to, coercion, fraud, misrepresentation, depriving any other person of an annual payment or payments for cost-share practices for the purpose of obtaining a payment to which a person would otherwise not be entitled.

(c) A program participant who succeeds to the responsibilities under this part shall report in writing to the NRCS any interest of any kind in enrolled land that is held by a predecessor or any lender. A failure of full disclosure will be considered a scheme or device under this section.

PART 634—RURAL CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

Subpart A—General

Sec.

- 634.1 Purpose and scope.
- 634.2 Objective.
- 634.3 Administration.
- 634.4 Responsibilities.
- 634.5 Definitions.

Subpart B—Project Authorization and Funding

- 634.10 Applicability.
- 634.11 Availability of funds.
- 634.12 Eligible project areas.
- 634.13 Project applications.
- 634.14 Review and approval of project applications.
- 634.15 Agreements.
- 634.16 Suspension of grants.
- 634.17 Termination of grant agreement.
- 634.18 Termination of project.
- 634.19 Project completion and closeout.

Subpart C—Participant RCWP Contracts

- 634.20 Eligible land.
- 634.21 Eligible participants.
- 634.22 Application for assistance.
- 634.23 Water quality plan.
- 634.24 Cost sharing.
- 634.25 Contracting.
- 634.26 Contract modifications.
- 634.27 Cost-share payment.
- 634.28 Appeals not related to contract violations.
- 634.29 Violations.
- 634.30 Appeals in USDA administered projects.

- 634.31 Appeals of contract violations.

Subpart D—Financial Management

- 634.40 Financial management.

Subpart E—Monitoring and Evaluation

- 634.50 Program and project monitoring and evaluation.

AUTHORITY: Sec. 35, Pub. L. 95–217, 91 Stat. 1579 (33 U.S.C. 1288).

SOURCE: 43 FR 50855, Nov. 1, 1978, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General

§ 634.1 Purpose and scope.

(a) The purpose of this part is for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), with the concurrence of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), to set forth regulations to carry out a Rural Clean Water Program (RCWP) under section 35, Pub. L. 95–217; 91 Stat. 1579; 33 U.S.C. 1288.

(b) The Rural Clean Water Program provides financial and technical assistance to private landowners and operators (participants) having control of rural land. The assistance is provided through long-term contracts (5 to 10 years) to install best management practices (BMP's) in project areas which have critical water quality problems resulting from agricultural activities. The proposed project area must be within a high priority area in an approved agricultural portion of a 208 water quality management plan. Participation in RCWP is voluntary.

(c) The program is a new USDA program and an extension of existing water-quality management programs of EPA.

§ 634.2 Objective.

The RCWP is designed to reduce agricultural nonpoint source pollutants to improve water quality in rural areas to meet water quality standards or water quality goals. The objective is to be achieved in the most cost-effective manner possible in keeping with the provision of adequate supplies of food and fiber and a quality environment.

§ 634.3 Administration.

At the national level, the Secretary of Agriculture, with the concurrence of